

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Narita et al.

Application No.: TBA

Group Art Unit: TBA

Filed: June 29, 2001

Examiner: TBA

For: FILM TRANSFER TOOL AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING A SMALL
DIAMETER ROLLER FOR USE FOR A TRANSFER HEAD OF A FILM
TRANSFER TOOL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced application or calculating the filing fee, kindly
amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly cancel claims 3-10 and add new claims 11-23 as follows:

Clean Copy of the Added Claims

11. (New) A film transfer tool, comprising:

a case;

a feed reel disposed within said case;

a take-up reel disposed within said case;

5 a power transmission gear disposed within said case and interlocking said feed reel and said take-up reel;

a frame at least partially disposed within said case;

a transfer head protruding from said case and coupled to said frame, said transfer head including a rotatable transfer roller; and

10 a resilient member coupled to an outer surface of said transfer roller.

12. (New) The tool of claim 11, wherein said transfer roller has an outside diameter of 1-3 mm.

13. (New) The tool of claim 11, further comprising a film transfer tape capable of being partially wound around said feed reel, extending around said transfer roller, and partially wound around said take-up reel.

14. (New) A method of producing a small diameter roller for use with a transfer head of a film transfer tool, comprising:

providing a core material containing a shaft of sufficient strength for use in a film transfer tool; and

5 placing a resilient member uniformly around said shaft.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said placing includes:

placing a heat shrinkable tube over said shaft; and

heating said tube so that said tube shrinks to cover said shaft.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said providing includes providing a collar portion at each end of said core material for preventing the axial deviation of said heat shrinkable tube.

17. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said placing includes:

submerging a rubber or silicone rubber tube in petroleum oil or an organic solvent to cause said tube to swell, said tube being formed to have an inside diameter which is smaller than an outside diameter of said shaft;

5 placing said tube that has so swollen over said shaft; and

drying said tube so placed over said shaft so that said tube shrinks to cover said shaft.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein said providing includes providing a collar portion at each end of said core material for preventing the axial deviation of said heat shrinkable tube.

19. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said placing includes forming a resilient coat over said shaft through painting or coating.

20. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said placing includes forming a rubber-like material over an outer circumferential surface of said shaft through insert molding.

21. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said placing includes:

cutting to a suitable length a hollow tube formed to have an inside diameter which is larger than an outside diameter of said shaft; and
loosely placing said tube over said shaft.

22. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said placing includes:

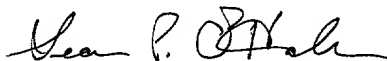
forming simultaneously said core material and said resilient member through two-color extrusion molding; and
cutting said core material and said resilient member to a suitable dimension.

23. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said placing includes skiving a resin or metallic material.

REMARKS

By this preliminary amendment, previously pending claims 1-10 have been rewritten as claims 11-23. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-10 have been canceled. Therefore claims 11-23 remain pending in the case.

Respectfully Submitted,



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